

## ABSTRACT

A method for selecting a channel of interest from a plurality of communication channels which carry audio or video information, by: extracting image or sound characteristic data from said audio or video information, searching for specific content of interest based on said image or sound characteristic data and selecting a channel based on said content of interest is described. Image and sound characteristic data are stored on a content-based channel search server, which includes video search engines capable of matching attributes related to user interest profiles with data corresponding to current content of multiple channels. Users interact with the server via client terminals, which communicate with the server using the Internet protocol. Client terminal receive search results corresponding to matches between channel content and user profile. The client terminal controls a variety of viewing, recording and logging devices.